

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are now pending in this application. Favorable examination on the merits is requested.

The Examiner requires election of one of three groups of claims consisting of (1) claims 1-3 and 7-15; (2) claim 4; and (3) claims 5 and 6. The Examiner alleges that the subject matter of claims 4 and 5-6 is distinct from the subject matter of claims 1-3 and 7-15.

The Examiner additionally requires election of species from among Figs. 1, 2, 6-11; Fig. 4, and Fig. 5. Upon review, it is apparent that Fig. 4 corresponds to claim 4 and Fig. 5 corresponds to claim 5.

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, claim 1 is in fact generic to all disclosed embodiments of the invention. In particular, claim 1 sets forth the interference time slot database from which time slot reallocation/rearrangement is carried out. Accordingly, dependent claims 16 and 17 have been added, which depend from claim 1. Since claims 16 and 17 correspond to the subject matter of claims 4 and 5, these claims must be examined on the merits and thus the restriction of claims 4 and 5 is now moot.

To comply with the requirement, applicants elect the invention of Group (1), which consists of claims 1-3 and 7-17, and the species of Figs. 1, 2, 6-11, upon which claims 1-3 and 7-17 are readable.

Favorable examination on the merits of all claims 1-17 is requested.

Please charge any fee or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,					
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